

# FEATURE

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# SECTION



## BOBBING HER CROWNING GLORY



Mrs. VERNON CASTLE  
in "Watch Your Step."  
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Mrs. Vernon Castle Started it on This Side and Now Half the Society Girls and Actresses in New York Have Cropped Their Tresses or are Wearing Ear-Length Wigs.

MRS. VERNON CASTLE did it first. It really is the very first smashing blow that America has delivered to poor Paris in the "make the styles in America" movement. It is all the rage. It has created a furore.

Mrs. Vernon first promulgated it by appearing in the sensational New York show of "Watch Your Step" with her lovely locks shorn, clipped and bobbed to about the height of her chin. She looked like a fifteenth century page.

The whole audience gasped. There was scarcely a woman who didn't throw a faint. They saw Mrs. V. Castle's bobbed hair and the handwriting on the wall at the same time. The thing was audacious, startling. But every woman in her heart knew intuitively that a new style in hair had been set.

Women with short, scrumpy hair were the first to recover. They were overjoyed. Not having anything to lose by bobbing their bantam locks they knew they could be absolutely in the swim at no cost to themselves.

The woman with the long, beautiful hair sighed and shed a few quiet tears. They knew the decree for shortened hair had gone out quietly but irrevocably. Sooner or later their lovely long tresses would have to go. Thus in the theater that night there was surprise, consternation, delight and happiness.

But the next afternoon in the hair-dressing department of the Vanderbilt hotel there were sighs and tears and regrets.

"See!" said an unsympathetic blonde manicure to a colleague, "that's what you get for picking up a new style right away. Why didn't you wait and see what was going to happen, anyway?"

Her colleague, Nellie Brennan, had

been weeping all night. She said so herself. It had taken twenty years to grow that magnificent suit of hair which was hers until the night before. Now it was all gone. In the twinkling of an eye it was gone save that which she had managed to gather together and pin on in the form of a switch.

Signor Butts, the head tonsorial artist, said the effect of seeing the tables around the room lined with young women whose locks hung down before they reached their shoulders was "cute." But Miss Mae Lewis, who is tall and willowy and black-haired, tossed her head defiantly and said she was glad she had done it. However, Miss Mary Williams, who is shorter and less slender, said she was

filled with regret, though she hadn't cried over it.

It was Mrs. Vernon Castle, of course, who had started the young ladies at the Vanderbilt on the short locks way. Two society women who had seen Mrs. Castle in "Watch Your Step" the first night she

had her hair bobbed went down to the Vanderbilt the next day and had theirs done likewise.

That gave Miss Mae Lewis the idea and she talked it over until everybody was enthusiastic. Charles, the barber, with his powerful shears, made one or

two passes at the hair of Miss Lewis, and there was Miss Lewis with her hair bobbed. The Misses Williams and Brennan followed suit. But no sooner did the hair of the last two fall to the floor than they began to miss it. They gathered it up and took it home. The next day they appeared with their hair as they had al-

But if you have the courage it really is the very newest way of dressing or undressing the hair. It is so new that if you adopt it you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you are one of the half dozen in the United States who are doing it. At present there are only three other schools of hairdressing other than the school of bobbing. One requires the hair to be parted on the side "which suits my style of beauty best." This school draws the part fairly low over the ears.

The maidens of the second school murmur: "I have always worn it like this. Alfred wouldn't know me if I didn't. In fact, he wouldn't like it."

The third is the "drag it back and show no more hair than you can possibly help." The naked brow is the goal. Complete nudity of the face is the one thing for women who can stand it and who wish to be really smart without bobbing their hair.

The shape of the face must not be taken into account at all, at all. You must bend all your energies to getting that naked look about the region of the head. The shamelessly nude face is the thing. Try to make your head look as nakedly exposed as the outside of the shell of an egg before it is broken.

Suppose it is unbecoming for you! It will be smart, and one must be smart. And do show your ears! Do not be ashamed of them in the undraped state. If your innate modesty insists upon it you may draw forward just a wisp of one or two hairs across the top of the ear. And if you insist you may use a weak and straggling fringe. But bear in mind that a September Morn nudity is the right thing.

